

Evening Telegraph

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1866.

The Steamship Lines to the South. There was a time when Philadelphia was the leading port in this country, when her merchants commanded the China trade, and when the most magnificent ships sailed out of our harbor and sailed back again from the East, laden with the spoils of the East. But how have we fallen from that high estate! We doubt if there is a single ship trading directly between this place and Canton, Nankin, or Yedo. And yet it may be asked why Boston and New York should, in the course of time, have taken from us the trade which we once monopolized? There is but one answer to that question, and it might as well be given now, without hesitation or reserve. The first merchants of Philadelphia were great men in their vocation. They were princes in their generation, like the merchants of ancient Tyre. They were men of enlarged views, liberal enterprise, adventurous disposition, and far-seeing sagacity. Their ideas of commerce were not limited by any "pent-up Utica," but looked freely abroad to the extremities of the earth and embraced the whole world. They are remembered yet as giants in their day, and not without regret by those who witness the decline of mercantile spirit here, and compare what is with what was.

It is perhaps too late to recover our lost ground entirely. The cities which have stolen a long march on us in the race for metropolitan influence, power, and wealth, are not likely to permit the sceptre to pass away from them. But it is yet possible to make Philadelphia a most important and prosperous port both as respects foreign and domestic commerce. The movement to establish four separate lines of steamships to connect this city with as many leading ports of the South is a step in the right direction. There is true wisdom in beginning at home, and trying to concentrate at this point the trade and travel of the Southern States. When that is accomplished in some considerable degree it, will be time enough to think of starting steamships from this port to Liverpool, Southampton, and Havre. There is a natural and logical order in commercial enterprise, as in almost every other business of life; and it seems to us that the command of a large part of our own coastwise trade and travel is a necessary precedent to any attempt to control a paying portion of the trade and travel between any American port and those of Europe. With the two resources combined, lines of steamships will pay large profits and be permanently prosperous.

Those of our merchants, therefore, who have been so industriously engaged in raising the necessary money to establish four separate lines of propellers, to run between Philadelphia and Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, and New Orleans, have been exerting their energies in the right direction, and they have succeeded in getting six hundred and thirty thousand dollars subscribed in behalf of the project. They want three hundred and seventy thousand dollars more to make up a million, which is the total sum required to consummate the enterprise on the scale that is deemed necessary to realize the full benefits of the trade which our position will, with proper means to secure it, unquestionably command. Our merchants and manufacturers should not delay to supply the deficit. They have the best possible guarantee that they will receive a handsome interest on the capital invested, while the advantages they will reap from the increased demand in the Southern States for their merchandise and products, by means of the proposed steamships, will greatly exceed the dividends on their shares in the stock of the company. We can count on the fingers of one of our hands the manufacturers who have interest enough in opening direct trade with the South to put the present project through at once, and who have wealth enough to do it without feeling inconvenience from the temporary loan they would make to carry out an undertaking that must, if consummated, most certainly and largely benefit and aggrandize them. But public spirit should have some part in this business. Selfish cupidity alone ought to raise the needed funds in less than twenty-four hours; and we are surprised that individual merchants and manufacturers, who are immediately and chiefly concerned in opening direct intercourse and commerce with the Southern States, do not come forward unsolicited with their capital, and build all the vessels that are needed for the purpose. But, outside of those who are moved to take part in such enterprises only by motives of private interest, there are thousands of rich citizens here, who are out of mercantile and manufacturing pursuits, and all sorts of business, who have yet a local pride that ought to impel them to risk some portion of their immense fortunes to build up the prosperity of the city of their residence and adoption, or of their birth. Nor are rich men interested in the commercial prosperity of Philadelphia only as citizens. They are, for the most part, more or less directly interested in its material and commercial growth. They are, in fact, men who have much of their private

for once invested in its real estate; and whatever tends to increase its population, attract capital here, and stimulate its industry, must greatly enhance the value of their property and swell their revenues from it, whether in the form of rents or otherwise. On the whole, the present movement to open direct trade between the leading Southern ports and Philadelphia must, if carried out successfully, benefit all classes of the people; and all should, therefore, contribute to the extent of their ability in promoting the final and complete accomplishment of the undertaking. Time is valuable in such a matter, and none should be lost by indecision and temporizing. Let our people remember that while they delay, others are reaching out their hands to grasp the prize.

A Move in the Right Direction. We observe in some of the New York papers a call for a meeting upon a subject of more than ordinary interest to the travelling public. A number of the principal hotel proprietors are about to perfect measures for reducing the charges per diem in their various establishments. During the progress of the war and since its close, boarding at hotels has been a tax on travellers which few were either willing or able to undergo. The consequence was, that the merchants of the West remained at home, and bought goods in small lots at the most convenient point at which they could be procured. Necessarily this decreased the trade of the seaboard cities, and the enormous prices charged by the hotel-keepers acted as a sort of a prohibitive measure or embargo upon the prosperity and growth of our commercial centres. It was also a ruinous policy for the hotel-keepers themselves, but at present there is no excuse for the extortionate prices which have ruled for the past four years. Gold has rapidly declined, and will soon touch ante-war rates. From the enormous premium of 285, it has surely and steadily declined until yesterday it could be had in Third street for 127. Every commodity and necessary of life is following gold in its decline. It is time that hotel-keepers and boarding-house proprietors had discovered this deeply interesting fact. House rents are not very likely to come down as long as real estate agents can induce owners to keep them for sale. Large numbers of persons are obliged by the exigencies of business to pass considerable portions of their time at hotels, and they will hear with satisfaction that the prospect of a reasonable decrease of their expenditures is probable. Could not our Philadelphia hotel-keepers make a movement in the same direction?

CITY INTELLIGENCE

[For Additional Local Items see Third Page.]

PRESENTATION TO A CLERGYMAN.—A delightful reunion of the congregation of the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church, and the friends of Rev. Dr. Edwards, President-elect of Washington and Jefferson College, took place last evening, in the Sabbath School-room of the church. About nine o'clock, after a pleasant interchange of sentiment, ex-Governor Pollock, in behalf of his friends of the West Arch Street Church, presented to Rev. Dr. Edwards a splendid hunting case gold watch of American manufacture. At the same time he also presented to Mrs. Edwards a very handsome lady's gold watch, chatelaine, etc., from the ladies of the congregation, and then presented both parents with a beautiful ivory portrait of their son Charles, executed in the best style by Mr. F. Gutekunst, Arch street. A very elegant rose-wood writing desk was also presented to Miss Etie Edwards by her Sabbath School teacher and classmates. The ladies also presented a magnificent cashmere dressing gown to Rev. Dr. Edwards. Ex-Governor Pollock made the presentation address in his usually happy and delicious manner, and on this occasion excelled his best efforts, and was responded to by the worthy recipient in a most appropriate and impressive address, full of heartfelt emotion. The value of the beautiful gifts will exceed five hundred dollars, and is a well-merited testimonial of the appreciation of the congregation for their late pastor and his family.

A TURBULENT CHARACTER.—Frederick Flanigan, who keeps a tavern at Greene and Thompson streets, got into a quarrel last night with a number of men who had been in his house. He became quite excited and soon pulled out a pistol, which he brandished at his comrades, much to their dissatisfaction. The disturbance was continued for some time, during which he got into the street, where men, women, and children, through fear of being injured by him, kept at a respectable distance. The disturbance continued until Flanigan reached Frankford road and Health street, where he was taken in charge by a policeman. Flanigan then made an attack on the officer, and pulling out his revolver, threatened to shoot him. He was finally captured and taken to Alderman Shoemaker's office, where he was held in the sum of \$500 to answer for the offense.

COLORED THIEVES.—This morning, about four o'clock, Sergeant Neff overhauled four colored men at Sixth and Bedford streets. On being spoken to they all showed a determination to come in close proximity with the officer, and all four ran away. On being pursued for some distance one of the number was overhauled and taken into custody. He gave the name of Robert Thomas. On searching his person several knives were found in his pockets, also a handkerchief marked "E. L. Osborne." He was committed by Alderman Tittemary to answer.

THE LOTTERY POLICY CASE.—The case of John J. Collins, arrested on a charge of dealing in lottery policies, came up before Recorder Egan again this morning. The circumstances connected with this case were published in THE TELEGRAPH a few days since. After a hearing this morning Collins was discharged, because it was shown that he has already been placed under bonds in the sum of \$2500 to answer a similar charge, by Alderman Lutz.

UNMANLY CONDUCT.—Charles Sands, a negro, was arrested last evening at Fifth and Girard avenue on the charge of attempting to cut a woman with a razor. An officer, witnessing the unmanly and unnatural act, immediately arrested Sands and conveyed him to the office of Alderman Shoemaker. The Alderman, on hearing the evidence, held the accused to answer for the offense.

DISTURBANCE IN MARKET STREET.—Yesterday a brood of Irishmen got into a quarrel at Fifth and Market streets. One of the number named James Mory, who was flourishing a bid, was arrested and taken before Alderman Goddard, who, on hearing the evidence, held him to answer for carrying a deadly weapon.

ANNOYING A SCHOOL.—Five boys were arrested yesterday afternoon on the charge of annoying the Public School at Fifteenth and Luzwater streets. They were all arrested, and had a hearing before Alderman Lutz, who held them to answer for the alleged offense.

ADMITTED TO THE BAR.—Philadelphia, March 24, 1866, on motion of Benjamin Harris Brewer, Esq., William Knight Shryock was this day admitted to practice as an attorney in the District Court and Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia.

This is a personal invitation to the reader to examine our new style of SEWING MACHINES. Cassinere Suits \$12.50 and Black Suits for \$7.50. Winter suits all prices up to \$15. W. ANAMAKER & BROS., 108 N. 3RD ST. SOUTHWEST CORNER SIXTH AND MARKET STS.

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RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.—The Second of a Series of Sermons preached in the city of New York in behalf of the American Bible Society, will be delivered in this city to-morrow (Sabbath) evening, at 7 o'clock, by the Rev. Dr. CHARLES HODGE, of Princeton, in the TENTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Dr. B. H. WALKER, and W. L. F. H. S. Subject—"The Inspiration of the Bible." A collection will be taken up for the Bible Society.

GERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH, SIXTH STREET, above Poplar.—Services and administration of the Sacrament in the German language to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock, by the Rev. Dr. CHARLES HODGE, of Princeton, in the TENTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Dr. B. H. WALKER, and W. L. F. H. S. Subject—"The Inspiration of the Bible." A collection will be taken up for the Bible Society.

SEVENTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BROAD STREET, above Chestnut.—The Rev. Dr. CROWELL will preach the Second sermon in the course upon the Parable of the Ten Virgins, to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Subject—"THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS."

REV. R. A. CHALKER WILL PREACH IN TRINITY METHODIST EPISC. CHURCH, BROAD STREET, above Chestnut.—The Rev. Dr. CROWELL will preach the Second sermon in the course upon the Parable of the Ten Virgins, to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Subject—"THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS."

THE SABBATH.—A MEETING OF THE Friends of the Sabbath to-morrow evening, at half past 7, at OLD FINE STREET CHURCH, Rev. Dr. B. H. WALKER, Pastor, by prominent Clergymen and Laymen.

FIFTEENTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, corner of FIFTEENTH and LOVE STREET, above Spruce.—Services (Communion) by the Pastor, Rev. WILLIAM McLELLAN, to-morrow, at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M. All are invited.

SILCO M. E. CHURCH, 615 1/2 STREET, above Girard avenue.—Preaching to-morrow at 10 1/2 A. M. by the Pastor, Rev. M. H. S. L. Y. Experience meeting at 3 P. M. Preaching at 7 o'clock P. M.

REV. J. C. MCKEE, OF NASHVILLE, Tenn., will preach in GREEN HILL HALL, at corner 31 1/2 W. 11TH and POPLAR streets, to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. Seats free. All cordially invited. Sunday School, 3 o'clock P. M.

REV. J. EDWARDS, D. D., WILL preach in the WEST ARCH STREET PRESBYTERIAN Church, to-morrow (Sabbath), at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M. Strangers welcome.

REV. S. H. GIESSEY, PASTOR OF Fifth German Reformed Church, GREEN STREET, near Sixteenth, will preach on Sunday, 26th inst., at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M. Strangers are cordially invited.

THE MODEL MEN OF THE BIBLE.—The next sermon of this course at the CHURCH OF THE BROAD AND 13TH STREETS, to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. Seats free. All cordially invited.

REV. J. M. CALDWELL PREACHES to-morrow in the Hall, RIDGE AVENUE, near Jefferson street, at 10 1/2 and 7 P. M. Sabbath School at 2 1/2 o'clock P. M.

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, at the BROAD and 13TH STREETS.—Preaching by Pastor at 10 1/2 A. M. and at 7 P. M. in the Evening.

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